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PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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| In re: | Patent Application of Ilona Lange, <i>et al.</i> | : Group Art Unit: 1712 : : |
| Appln. No.: | 09/857,635 | : Examiner: Philip C. Tucker : : |
| Filed: | November 9, 2001 | : Confirmation No.: 4995 : : |
| For: | ROCK AND SOIL SEALING COM- POSITIONS CONTAINING SILICA SOLS AND HARDNESS STABILIZERS, AND METHODS OF USING THE SAME | : Attorney Docket No.: H 3243 PCT/US : : |

AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 12, 2004 ("Paper No. 12"), in the above-identified application. This response is being timely filed as a Petition for a three-month extension of time, up to and including February 14, 2005 (February 12, 2005 being a Saturday), including an authorization to charge fees, is being submitted herewith.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this response. Remarks begin on page 7 of this response.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration by the Examiner of all pending claims, in view of the following amendments and remarks. Please amend the instant application, without prejudice, as follows.